

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims in order to correct informalities in the claims of the Amendment filed October 19, 2009. Specifically, Applicants have amended claims 47 and 48 to consistently recite the “humidifier holding member”. In addition, Applicants have amended claims 50 and 51 to recite that the assembly further includes a holder for the water-retaining layer, to provide antecedent basis for recitation of the “holder” subsequently in claims 50 and 51, and to provide a period at the end of claim 51.

Initially, it is respectfully requested that the present amendments be entered, notwithstanding 37 CFR 1.111(a)(2), as the present amendments correct informalities so as to consistently recite the “humidifier holding member” in claims 47 and 48, and to consistently recite the “holder” in claims 50 and 51, providing antecedent basis for this “holder”.

Concerning patentability of the present claims, attention is respectfully directed to contentions made on pages 15-29 of the Amendment filed October 19, 2009.

Entry of the present amendments, and reconsideration and allowance of all claims then pending in the above-identified application, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Kindly charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of

Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Account No. 01-2135 (case 520.43216X00),
and please credit any overpayments to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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